

Case No.: 5682A

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****DEC 11 2007****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Fang et al.
Serial Number: 10/685,318
Filed: October 14, 2003
For: **TREATED TEXTILES AND COMPOSITIONS
FOR TREATING TEXTILES**

Group Art Unit: 1771
Examiner: Matzek, Matthew D.

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and all correspondence referenced herein as being enclosed with this correspondence, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450" with sufficient postage on the following

Date: December 11, 2007

Signature: Linda-Ann Manley

Name: Linda-Ann Manley

DECLARATION OF INVENTOR SIDNEY LOCKE

1. I, Sidney Locke make this statement from my own personal knowledge. I am a co-inventor of the invention set forth in the above referenced patent application.

2. My educational background is that I received a degree in Chemical Engineering in 1998 from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia. Further, I received a Masters in Business Administration from Wake Forest University in 2005. I have attended at least about eight (8) industry seminars or trade shows in the field of automotive parts or fabrics.

3. I am employed as a Development Engineer in the Automotive Group for Milliken & Company ("Milliken") in Spartanburg, South Carolina. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this Declaration.

4. I was involved in reviewing and preparing the patent application specification

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filed in the United States Patent Office on October 14, 2003.

5. The specification discloses a textile comprising a fibrous treated textile substrate. The fibrous treated textile substrate has two sides, a first side (user contact surface) and a second side (backside). The substrate has a fluorochemical composition applied to the fibrous treated textile. The fluorochemical composition provides repellency to the fibrous treated textile substrate. Further, an antimicrobial agent is present in some applications of the invention. In the specification, the fluorochemical composition with antimicrobial may be applied to both sides in some of the examples, as it is immersed in an aqueous bath and then nipped to remove excess composition. Page 15, example 1. Therefore, the specification contemplates that both fluorochemical and antimicrobial are applied at least to the first side of the fibrous textile substrate.

6. Another feature of the invention is an electrically conductive coating layer. In the specification, three alternatives are provided for the application of this coating layer. As a first option, the fabric may be coated with an electrically conductive coating layer on a first side only (user contact side). Second, the fabric may be coated on the second side only (backside) ("second option"). A third option is that the fabric could be coated on both the first and second sides. See page 8, lines 19-22 ("fabric may be coated on one or both sides"); see also page 9, lines 18-22 ("coating one or both sides of the fabric with an electrically conductive coating in a pattern comprised of lines...").

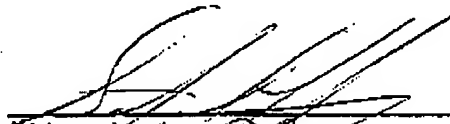
7. One useful embodiment is the application of the electrically conductive coating to the second side only (second option). One reason the second option has been found to be useful is that the electrically conductive coating otherwise would

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undesirably reduce hand and softness of the fabric — if such coatings were applied to the first user side. In the specification, it is explained on page 9 that the textile has permanent anti-static properties which are achieved without significantly compromising the textile hand or feel of the textile or the surface appearance of the textile.

8. A person of skill in the art of such textiles, upon reading this specification and reviewing the full description of this invention, could readily understand the benefits of using the second option with the coating layer on the second side only. A person of skill in the art of fabric manufacture, who reads the specification, can recognize the benefit of using the electrically conductive coating layer on only the second side of the treated textile substrate, as compared to using such a coating on the first side or both sides. The use of the coating on only the second side of the substrate is consistent with and disclosed in the written specification.

9. All statements set forth herein are made of my own knowledge and are true, and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. I make these statements with the knowledge that willful false statements are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.


Sidney Locke
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Greer, Sc 29651

12/17/07
Date